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WASHINGTON, D. C.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 1854.

OUR POLITICAL SURVEY.

We commenced our Political Survey, yesterday, by exhibiting the movements among the Whigs, Independent Democrats, and People of the free States, in relation to the Nebraska Question, and the Slavery issues involved in it.

To-day, we present the Administration in its true character, and shall follow this up to-morrow, by directing attention to the movements of several classes of voters in the free States, who are either openly, or covertly, sustaining it.

After that, we shall turn our view Southwardly, and introduce our readers to the political movements among the Slaveholders, who, by a ridiculous misnomer, are called Whigs or Democrats.

THE ADMINISTRATION AND ITS SUPPORTERS.

It is common to speak of the Party that sustains the present Administration, as the Democratic Party. We shall be guilty of no such misnomer. Democracy is government by the People, for the benefit of the People. Democracy in this country, if genuine, is supposed to government by classes, sections, factions, cliques, or executive power and patronage. A Party which sustains such a Democracy, and sympathizes with it in such opposition, is the Democratic Party. On the other hand, a Party which sustains a faction, clique, section, class, or an Executive Power, in opposition to the People, for the sake of an interest, adverse to their interests, is essentially and grossly anti-Democratic, whatever its pretensions.

The supporters of the present Administration constitute precisely such a Party. Its entire policy, from the time it commenced the dispensation of patronage, down to the passage of the Bill for the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and the inception of the conspiracy to obtain Cuba, has been steadily aimed at the establishment of its own power, by subjugating the will and interests of eighteen millions of the free people of the country, not interested in what is called slave property, to the will and interests of four hundred thousand persons, with their dependents, interested in such property; in other words, by subjecting the People to the government of a Class, of which it is the active, untrusting, unscrupulous agent.

From its inauguration in March, 1853, till the meeting of Congress in December, the only Domestic Question on which it acted was Appointments to Office, and Distribution of Patronage; and the essential condition to the bestowment of office or patronage was, unqualified adherence to that article in the Baltimore Platform, which embodies a pledge to consider the legislation of 1850, especially the Fugitive Slave Act, as a finality, and to resist all agitation of questions of Slavery, in Congress or out of it. This pledge was not required by the People, nor was it made for the benefit of the People. It was required by the Slaveholding Oligarchy, and made for its benefit. It was immoral and Anti-Democratic; but adherence to it was uniformly insisted upon by the Administration, as a test of fitness for office or the reception of patronage.

For nine months the Administration employed itself upon this Question, acting upon this Anti-Democratic Principle; and yet, his supporters claim to be the Democratic Party!

The annual message to Congress was so far devoid of any distinctive Democratic doctrine, that it received almost equal commendation from all Parties, except that Party which, in its re-affirmation of a Pro-Slavery creed, saw enough to vitiate its whole position and policy. Some abstract dissertation there was on Strict Construction and the relations of the Federal and State Power, made up of commonplace dogmas, which nobody ever thinks of uttering, unless for want of something else to say, or for the purpose of veiling some usurpation of power.

Since the message was delivered, Congress has been in session seven months, with an overwhelming Administration majority in both branches. Surveys, a Democratic President, with such a majority in the Federal Legislature and throughout the country, ought to have done something during these long months to prove his claim to the title.

The immense commerce of the great West has been suffering incalculable damage for many years, for the want of safe harbors on the Lakes and necessary improvements in the large rivers—a commerce in which twelve millions of the People are directly, and all of them indirectly, interested. An appropriation of one or two millions from a Treasury with a surplus of fifty millions, would have been a wise, beneficent, popular measure. But no movement towards such an act has been made; this Democratic Administration was hostile to it. It was very wise and entirely constitutional, without consulting the People's Representatives, to offer twenty millions to Santa Anna for enough of Mexico to form two slave States, and open the route of a Southern railway across the continent, from Charleston to San Diego, but very unwise and entirely unconstitutional to appropriate one or two millions for the protection of life and property among twelve millions of People. That is wise and constitutional which the Class interest, of which the Administration is the agent, demands; that is just the reverse, which the People demand and that interest disapproves.

Another great measure, in which all the People of all the States were deeply interested, and the accomplishment of which is necessary to perpetuate the union between the free States of the Pacific and the States of the Atlantic and Mississippi, was the Pacific Railroad. But, as the Class Interest, which controls this Democratic Administration, had its own views of this subject, and proposed to turn the enterprise chiefly to its own aggrandizement, the President was non-committal in his message concerning it, and finally the bill introduced into the House in relation to it was summarily

postponed till the next session by Administration votes, so as to preclude a speech from the most distinguished and determined opponent of the Southern route.

Another act of this Democratic Administration was, the vetoing of a bill granting certain portions of the public lands to all the States, to be applied by them severally to the establishment of asylums for the indigent insane—a measure of equal interest to the People of all sections, but disapproved of by the President, because he was unwilling to displease the ruling Oligarchy, which frowns upon any disposition of the public domain, intended specially for the good of the People.

The next movement of this Democratic Administration was, an attempt through one of its instruments in the House to raise the tax on newspapers and letters, so as to oblige the People of the free States make up the vast deficit in the revenues of the Post Office Department, occasioned by the excess of expenditures among Slaveholders over receipts, the extravagant appropriations made to mail steamship Companies, and the carriage through the mails free of cost of documents, pamphlets, and letters, sent by members of Congress. This mean attempt to increase the burden of the Many for the benefit of the Few, fortunately failed to command the assent even of the Administration majority.

But, the crowning act of this Democratic Administration—the act which has given it and its supporters an immortality of infamy—is the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, with a view, as it is now clearly demonstrated, to introduce Slavery in Kansas, and to establish a Principle in virtue of which Slavery Propaganda may go forth conquering and to conquer—a measure unopposed by the People, repugnant to their sense of Right and to their best interests, sprung upon them by surprise, forced through Congress in glaring opposition to their will, by the votes of men pretending to represent them, while betraying them; acting all the while under the dictation of an Administration professing reverence for Democracy, and practicing implicit obedience to the Slaveholding Oligarchy!

We ask every sober-minded, disinterested Democrat in the country, is such an Administration, Democratic? Are its supporters, Democrats? There is the record—is it not true? And does not every act there recorded prove that it is the agent of the Class Interest of Slavery, working for its aggrandizement, not only to the neglect, but in utter violation, of the rights and interests of the People? To call such an Administration Democratic, is to tie to God and man. To call its supporters the Democratic Party, is to utter a libel on all genuine Democracy. Call them Administration men, Pierce men, Sevier, Slavery Propagandists, Covenant Breakers, anything you please, so that you define their true position; but, for the sake of all that is decent and of good report in Republican institutions, do not disgrace the name, Democracy, by styling them Democrats—the Democratic Party!

Having exposed the true character of this Administration and its supporters, we shall be the better prepared to understand and characterize the political movements of those classes of politicians in the free States who are laboring to give it aid and countenance, and at the same time, to escape the odium of its policy. We shall pursue the subject to-morrow.

A WORD IN EARNEST.

The elections in some of the Eastern and Western States are now near at hand, but we are still very much in the dark as to the course to be pursued by the Whigs and Anti-Nebraska Democrats in relation thereto. It is well understood that no pains or cost will be spared by the Administration in the support of its Congressional candidates. All appliances of party and Government will be put in operation; every office-holder will be made to understand that he holds his place only on condition of rendering active and unscrupulous electioneering service. Under these circumstances, nothing short of a complete fusion of all the elements of opposition into a determined and vigorous party, based on the long-abandoned principles of the Declaration of Independence, can insure a majority of Anti Slavery members in the House of Representatives.

Shall this fusion take place? Shall Whigs, Democrats, and Free-Soilers—powerless while separated—unite, and sweep the free States clean of serviles and slave catchers, and make the new House of Representatives an effective barrier against the monstrous propaganda of Slavery? Shall the certainty of this most desirable result be sacrificed to an insane attachment to party names and prejudices? Are there none among the leading Whigs of the North who are capable of rising to the altitude of the occasion, and declaring that if Freedom fails in this death-grapple with Slavery, the fault shall not lie at the doors of themselves and their friends, who are ready to meet Free-Soilers and Anti-Nebraska Democrats on a common platform of constitutional and legal opposition to Slavery; and, forgetting the things that are behind, bury old feuds and personal antipathies, old party names and watchwords, and rally about a Party of Freedom, having for its specific objects the repeal of the execrable Fugitive Slave Law and the Nebraska Bill, and the limitation and denationalization of Slavery? The men who should do this—because they can do it—are well known. The responsibility rests upon them. They must answer for it to God and their country.

But, why waste words! The hour has struck—the favorable moments for successful action are rapidly passing. If anything is to be done to save the country from the perdition to which it is tending, now is the time for it. Once for all, let it be well understood, that the Free Democracy ask nothing but the privilege of swelling with their one hundred and sixty thousand votes the ranks of the Party of Freedom, and of bringing to the support of that party, by whomsoever led, uniting zeal and unflinching labor. Whigs and Democrats, who love liberty, the matter rests with you. You hold in your hands the destiny of the country. You can establish its liberties on a sure foundation, or leave to the future a darker legacy of evil than one generation has ever yet bequeathed to another. The question is between Liberty and Slavery. Choose for yourselves and posterity.

The Louisville Journal states, upon the authority of a gentleman, who arrived there from Lexington, that the hair of Weigart, found guilty of murder in the first degree, which was formerly black, has turned white since his conviction.

CONGRESS.

The debate in the Senate to-day was somewhat personal. Massachusetts suffered nothing in the hands of her eloquent Senator, nor did he suffer by the assaults of his ferocious adversaries.

In the House, the bill providing additional mail service between the Atlantic and the Pacific was defeated, and the closing speech on the ten millions appropriation bill was made by Mr. Houston.

LITERARY NOTICES.

DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF THE REVOLUTION. By R. W. Gilben, M. D., Columbia, S. C.

A volume of three hundred pages, containing letters and papers relating to the contest for liberty during the last three years of the Revolutionary War, chiefly in South Carolina. The correspondence is mainly carried on by Greene, Marion, Sumter, and Rutledge, but a good many interesting letters that passed between the American and British officers are presented.

In this, as in all works of the class, there is a great deal of chaff, but there is enough weight to pay for the trouble of sifting it out. It is a real pleasure, too, to go to the sources of History and see how much of our compiled information is correct. Writers of different parties on the war against Mexico would prepare narratives very differently colored, and suggesting quite opposite opinions, although they would draw their materials from the same sources. He who would not take opinions on trust, or at second hand, will always be glad to avail himself of a faithful and full documentary history.

That before us is, of course, merely fragmentary; but it contains some of the finest specimens of letter-writing, from Gen. Greene, that we have ever seen from any pen.

PERSONAL NARRATIVE OF EXPLORATIONS AND INCIDENTS. By John Russell Bartlett. In 2 vols. New York: D. Appleton & Co. For sale by R. Parham, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Bartlett was appointed by Gen. Taylor, in June, 1850, United States Commissioner, to run the boundary line, in conjunction with the Mexican Commissioner, between this country and Mexico. In that year, and in 1851, 1852, and 1853, he travelled extensively through Texas, New Mexico, California, Sonora, and Chihuahua; and these two large hand-colored volumes, embellished with maps and illustrations, contain a Narrative of his explorations during that time, and of the incidents of his journeyings; and much valuable information concerning the regions he traversed—the soil, climate, mineral resources, animal and vegetable products, and various tribes of savages. It is written without exaggeration, generally in a simple, easy style, and, bating some excess of detail, is very interesting.

NEW BOOKS.

Our attention has been so exclusively occupied with other than literary matters, for some time past, that we have not been able to notice, in order, several new books which have been laid on our table. At present, we can only speak of two or three recent publications of Ticknor & Co.

"POEMS AND PARODIES" is the title of a collection of the poetical writings of Phoebe Carey, who needs no introduction to the readers of the Era. There is true poetry in this volume—pure, womanly, and sweetly musical utterances of the heart as well as of the intellect. Somewhat less imaginative and fanciful than her sister Alice, the writer is truer to nature and the actual experiences of life. There is an intense reality of feeling in some of her lyrics, which is almost painful, and which singularly contrasts with what we know of her sunny-hearted and happy girlhood. Her Parodies have a great deal of characteristic clearness and wit; but, with the exception of "Martha Hopkins"—a perfect gem of a ballad—are scarcely worthy of the place they occupy in connection with the serious beauty of the original poems.

"WENSLEY," a story without a moral, is, we think, the most successful attempt which has yet been made to portray the peculiar trials of New England society of the past generation. The old-school Clergyman and his man Jasper are elderly pictures from life, and are drawn with skill, truthfulness, and genial humor. It seems to us the most readable book of the kind which has appeared since Hawthorne's Blithedale Romance. The authorship is unacknowledged, but rumor ascribes it to Edmund Quincy, Esq. of Boston.

"ATTENTION, AND OTHER TALES," by Mary Russell Mitford, is an original work of the author of "Our Village," and every way equal to those charming rural pictures of merry England. Indeed, we are inclined to rank Attention, as a work of art, higher than any previous production of the writer. It is a faultless tale of romance, the interest of which never flags for a moment. The book is elegantly printed, and is made doubly valuable by a fine engraving of the author—a beautiful, kindly face, which Time has only touched lightly and lovingly—our very ideal of a true English gentlewoman.

IMPORTANT MEASURES.—The Baltimore American enumerates the following important measures now occupying the attention of the people and Congress of the country: The treaty between Mexico and the United States, by which we are to pay ten millions; the reciprocity and Fishery treaty between Great Britain and the United States; the annexation of the Sandwich Islands; a treaty between the United States and Japan; the organization of the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas; the acquisition of Cuba, either by purchase or conquest; the reorganization of the navy, and the establishment of an apprenticeship system for the increase of seamen; a modification of the tariff; and the building of the Pacific railroad; the withdrawal of the African squadron, and the adoption of means for the protection of the merchant marine on our coast. The Tariff will not be modified (as it ought to be) and the Pacific Railroad is laid over till next session.

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TAVENNS DESTROYED.—There was a mob at Ripley, Ohio, on Saturday night, caused by the inmates of a tavern throwing rotten eggs into a Temperance meeting. The Temperance men rallied, and destroyed all the bar fixtures and liquor in the house. They then visited all the liquor shops in the town, and those that did not agree to give up the business were assaulted. No lives were lost.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—In the House of Representatives, yesterday forenoon was spent in debating the anti-Nebraska resolutions. A committee of five was appointed to inquire into charges against the coalition, of attempting to bribe members, and drugging their liquor.

MURDER BY AN INFERNAL MACHINE.—On Monday evening a box was sent to the Marine Hospital, on the corner of Longworth and Western Row, Cincinnati, and deposited in the room of the steward, Mr. S. H. Allison.

At about ten o'clock, the steward and his wife, being alone in the room, opened the box, when it exploded, mangle the bodies of both horribly. Mrs. Allison had both arms torn off and her skull fractured. Mr. Allison was dreadfully mangled. The furniture, windows, and ceiling of the room, were shattered to atoms.

The indications are, that the box contained a bomb-shell about six inches in diameter. There is no clue to the perpetrator of this awful outrage.

OUR NAVY.—The Buffalo Democracy says: "Here is a table, from a recent pamphlet, by an American officer, showing the extent of the first five navies in the world:

Vessels of war.	No. of guns.
England	667
France	390
Russia	190
Holland	102
United States	60

This is a scant showing, to be sure; but then, in the matter of expense, we doubt not we can make a larger comparative exhibit!

THE GADSDEN TREATY.—The New York National Democrat thus sustains the demand of the Democratic President:

"If Congress shall consent to give Santa Anna ten millions of dollars for a miserable strip of territory which would soon fall into our hands, it will give just ten millions less than the President was willing to give him, and which amount was inserted in the first treaty. But what is ten millions, when Santa Anna is in need, and our Treasury so full? What would have been twenty millions even, when the President deemed it should be given to Santa Anna? The Senate have saved the country a small sum by their action. Now let us promptly pay up the amount demanded. It is not much for the country to pay for their whistle—not much for the Democracy to give, when their favorite demands it!"

Mr. James Crutcher, one of the jurors in the Ward case, has published a card explanatory of his assenting to the verdict. He impugns the motives of the larger portion of the jury, and alleges that deception was practiced upon him, and that he was entrapped into an assent. It was a vile verdict, and its odium will live forever.

FROM A PIONEER.

MINNESOTA, June 10, 1854.

To the Editor of the National Era: Having come to Minnesota for the purpose of making a claim and a home, and being poor, as a majority are who go to a new country, and having had several years' experience in Western life, allow me to tell our servants in Congress our wants:

1st. We want three or five years' pre-emption, to pay for our lands. With one year's pre-emption we are obliged to pay for our lands before we can produce anything to spare, as it is well known that for the first year and a half we must be on expense. I think most of the settlers would be satisfied with a bill to that effect, instead of one granting lands free of cost. Certainly the land business should pay its own expenses.

Under the present system, we are obliged to go to speculators, and get them to enter our lands for us, and allow them from 25 to 90 per cent. on their money. This enormous interest accumulates so rapidly, that one half the settlers are obliged to sell their lands to pay for them. Government should give us this time, which we have to purchase so dearly of speculators; and it would lose nothing in the end by the operation. Let us have Mason's Land Bill, granting five years' time or pre-emption, or something like it, before the close of the present Congress.

2d. We want one hundred post offices established immediately. The mail route from Dubuque to St. Paul, via Redwood, Decorah, Chaska, and Osceola, should be established now, so that the close navigation will not close the mails. The country is fast settling on this route, and already large settlements are thirty miles from this post office.

3d. We want the public land sales abolished. Government gains little or nothing by putting the lands up at auction, while it is a great inconvenience and it would lose nothing in the end by the operation. Let us have Mason's Land Bill, granting five years' time or pre-emption, or something like it, before the close of the present Congress.

Please tell our servants in Congress these things, and see if they cannot do something for us. Yours, P. F. THURBER.

From the Salem (Ohio) Homestead Journal.

KANSAS AND SLAVERY.

Since the Party for Freedom, a part of which we published a few weeks ago, has been set in motion in Massachusetts and New York, the South have endeavored to organize a similar company, and, as they choose to term it, "best prime object is to free settle Kansas with slaveholders, and when that Territory is well secured, and Slavery firmly rooted in its soil, they will then, if need be, turn their attention to Nebraska. The slaveholders are on the alert, and although they have, by the basest and most dishonorable treachery, secured the privilege of taking their human chattels to these territories, they will not consider their victory complete until involuntary servitude becomes a "fixed fact" in the Constitution of Nebraska and Kansas, but more especially the latter. And when this purpose is once achieved, then, doubtless, other aggressions on free soil will be contemplated by the Slave Power. The Ordinance of 1787, by which Ohio and the Northwest were forever declared free from the loathsome curse, will be the next to receive the attack of the enemy. Forewarned, with the South, means only as long as they please.

Several meetings, for the purpose of organizing companies of slaveholders to settle Kansas, have already been held in Missouri. The Hon. John G. Palfrey is writing a history of New England.

For the National Era.

MAY.

BY C. M. MORRIS.

'Tis a glorious month for the poet and bird, And I doubt he if ever a sweeter were heard Than that which sings high on the old chestnut bough, That so lovingly drops round my window-sill now!

Oh! leave the dull hearth, for why will ye linger, With pale aching brow, or swift-plying finger? Throw the work quite away, leave the pen's tardy motions; All the dreary new books will make good sleeping potions!

I should know it is May, without any cipher Of Calendar months, by our joyous old sister, Who strolls through the village, as if the rude life, That clings to his lips, were the solace of life!

I should know the glad month on this glowing day, By the arches, half crazy with marbles and play; And even the Sun seems to wear a new splendor, Or pen-weary eyes are becoming more tender!

But sometimes old Winter, to make the folks fret, Steps in upon May, just for one prouette; A snow-drift or hail-storm, or something of scurry, To let us all know he's not off in a hurry!

Read Winter! all ice-bound and stern as thou art, There's something about thee that clings to my heart: With thy warm-remembered tones and thy bright social face, Where one can sit down without studying grace!

There's the table so filled with food for the mind, Till some Epicure's spirit swoops off in a freak, Some silvery verse, or some sour critique!

Then the new books, I love them whenever they come, Without any brown mark from a finger or thumb; That shows how some pale, studious student or clerk Hath perished all their treasure to add to his store!

But May is a sad month, whenever we find What long sunny Mays we are leaving behind; And many a slumb in the churchyard will say, Our brightest, our dearest, we buried in May!

Oh! May is the season for roaming or rest, Through the wild wood, whichever may please you the best; With the blue sky above, and the moss for a throne, You may fancy wild Nature's sweet kingdom your own!

Yea! seated for hours in some dreamy nook, With a silly new song, or a wondrous old book—The song is one's own, and collected with care, But it puts you to sleep in spite of the air!

But the twilight's broad shadows are deepening round; I am far from the homestead, and tread fairy ground; I think I see elves, but it may be but spiders, Some brave pigmy knight with a train of out-riders!

There's the "star in the sunset," how gleaming and still! Like a gleaming gem on the brow of the hill. In the language of stars, I suppose it must say, I'm shining so brightly in honor of May!

And there's the May moon—oh! pale, pearly shell! Your topic is old—how old I can't tell; But after the great Master poet, 'twere vain To trespass upon any peculiar domain!

But one word I must say, as we part at the gate, And it shall not be long, for it is growing late; Though perfumes and roses are coming with June, I shall never forget thy soft guidance, May moon!

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For the National Era.

THE LEGAL TENURE OF SLAVERY.

LETTER XVI.

SLAVERY ILLEGAL BY THE STATE CONSTITUTIONS FORMED FROM 1776 TO 1789, AND AFTERWARDS.

To the Friends of American Liberty: I have shown that Slavery cannot be legalized in any of the States that are founded upon the Declaration of Independence, unless or until they have formally repudiated and repudiated that Declaration, which none of them have yet done.

I shall now show that, in addition to all this, the State Constitutions of the several States, including the present slave States, or many of them, are incompatible with Slavery, inasmuch that they would have abolished any previously established legal Slavery, if it had existed among them.

I will begin with Massachusetts, where a judicial decision has determined that the State Constitution prohibits Slavery, and then compare with the Constitution of Massachusetts, those of some of the slave States. "In Massachusetts, it was judicially decided, soon after the Revolution, that Slavery was virtually abolished by the Constitution, and that the issue of a female slave, though born prior to the Constitution, was born free."—Kent's Commentary, p. 252.

In giving the opinion of the Court in the case of the Commonwealth vs Thomas Aves, in 1833, Chief Justice Shaw said:

"How, or by what act particularly, Slavery was abolished in Massachusetts, whether by the adoption of the opinion in Somerset's case, as a declaration or modification of the Common Law, or by the Declaration of Independence, or by the Constitution of 1780, is not now very easy to determine; and it is rather a matter of curiosity than utility, it being agreed on all hands that, if not abolished before, it was by the Declaration of Rights." * * * "Without pursuing this inquiry further, it is sufficient for the purposes of the case before us, that by the Constitution adopted in 1780, Slavery was abolished in Massachusetts on the ground that it is contrary to natural right and the plain principles of justice." The terms of the first article of the Declaration of Rights are plain and explicit. "All men are born free and equal, and have certain natural, essential, and unalienable rights, which are the right of enjoying and defending their lives and liberties, that of acquiring and possessing and protecting property." It would be difficult to select words more precisely adapted to the abolition of Slavery.—Pickering's Reports, pp. 209-10.

It will be observed here, that while Judge Shaw agrees with Chancellor Kent, that the Constitution of Massachusetts abolished Slavery in that State, "if not abolished before," (declaring that this is "agreed on all hands.") he adds, that either one of three other things might be mentioned, viz: 1st, the decision of Lord Mansfield in Somerset's case; 2d, the authority of common law; or, 3d, the Declaration of Independence, would have been sufficient for the same purpose. This sustains fully the course of argument I have already pursued. And it will be noticed, further, that each of these three grounds of deciding the illegality of Slavery (either of which, by itself, would be amply sufficient) are as valid in all of the States as they are in Massachusetts.

All the States were equally affected by the decision of Somerset's case, equally under the authority of common law, and equally under the operation of the Declaration of Independence. If either one or all of these rendered Slavery illegal in Massachusetts, they rendered it illegal in Virginia, in the Carolinas, and in Georgia.

Let us next see whether the same observation may not be extended to the fourth ground of abolition, mentioned by Judge Shaw, and "agreed on all hands," viz: the State Constitutions. How did those of the slave States compare with that of Massachusetts?

DELAWARE.—"All men have, by nature, the

rights of worshipping and serving their Creator according to the dictates of their consciences, of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring and protecting reputation and property." "The People shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions, from all unreasonable searches and seizures, from which shall follow corruption of blood, nor, except during the life of the offender, forfeiture of estate." *

MARYLAND.—"All government, of right, originates from the PEOPLE, is founded in compact only, and instituted solely for the good of the whole." "The inhabitants of Maryland are entitled to the common law of England."

"Entitled," consequently, to protection from Slavery.

"The right, in the PEOPLE, to participate in the Legislature, is the best security of liberty, and the foundation of all free government." "EVERY MAN has a right to petition the Legislature," &c.

"That monopolies are odious, contrary to the spirit of a free Government, and ought not to be suffered."

This Constitution was framed in August, 1776, and re-nates the Declaration of Independence, proclaimed a few weeks previous.

"NORTH CAROLINA.—"Declaration of Rights." "That all political power is vested in and derived from the PEOPLE ONLY." "That no man or set of men are entitled to exclusive or separate emoluments or privileges from the community, but in consideration of public services."

"That freedom of the press is one of the great bulwarks of liberty, and therefore ought never to be restrained." "That ALL MEN have a natural and unalienable right to worship Almighty God, according to the dictates of their own consciences." "That a frequent recurrence to fundamental principles is absolutely necessary to preserve the blessings of LIBERTY."

"That perpetuities and monopolies are contrary to the genius of a FREE STATE, and ought not to be allowed."

Plainly implying that North Carolina is to be regarded as a free State, and that the Constitution of that State, in relation to the rights of men, confers no authority on the Legislature to establish it. On the contrary, it explicitly declares (Art. 44) "That the Declaration of Rights is hereby declared to be a part of the Constitution of this State, and ought never to be violated, on any pretence whatever."

How, then, can there be any legal validity in those remarks in the report, attributed to Mr. Sumner, by which not only "monopolies," but "perpetuities" are guarded, but rights of conscience violated, slaves forbidden to read the Bible, and all colored men, bond or free, forbidden to preach the Gospel?

VIRGINIA.—"All men are by nature equally free and independent, and have certain inherent rights"—"the enjoyment of life and liberty, with the means of acquiring and possessing property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety."

So much for the Constitutions of four of the original States, still retaining Slavery. In three of them, the terms employed are quite as full and emphatic against Slavery as in the Constitution of Massachusetts. In the other, they are scarcely less so. Let us now look at the Constitution of one of the newer slave States.

MISSISSIPPI.—"Declaration of Rights."—"That all power is inherent in THE PEOPLE, and all FREE Governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their peace, safety, and happiness; for the advancement of these ends they have, AT ALL TIMES, an inalienable and indefeasible right to alter, amend, or ABOLISH, the Government they live under, IN SUCH MANNER as they may think proper."

This right of "THE PEOPLE" of Kentucky includes, of course, the rights of the "people of color," bond and free! Rather "incendiary." But read further:

"ALL MEN have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God, according to the dictates of their own consciences. That the PEOPLE shall be secure in their PERSONS, houses, papers, and possessions, from unreasonable searches and seizures." "That perpetuities and monopolies are contrary to the genius of a free State, and ought not to be allowed." &c., &c.

If Slavery can be legalized under Constitutions like these, the rights of the Constitution, as a means of restricting the despotism of legislation and securing freedom, might as well be abandoned first as last. Constitutional Government, in such a case, become a farce.

I do not say that all the Constitutions of slave States compare with these. But I do say that Slavery cannot legally exist under such State Constitutions. Some of the States have changed their Constitutions since 1789. But challenge the proof that, at that period, there was a single State whose Constitution authorized the Legislature to establish Slavery.

WILLIAM GOODELL.

* This Constitution of Delaware was adopted in 1776, after the adoption of the Federal Constitution, and after the judicial decision in Massachusetts, declaring Slavery inconsistent with a Constitution of precisely the same character.

[BY HOUSE'S PRINTING TELEGRAPH.]

TELEGRAPHIC CORRESPONDENCE.

FOR DAILY NATIONAL ERA.

From New York.—The Weather.—Foreign News at Hand.—Sailing of the Arabia.

NEW YORK, JUNE 28.—The difficulties on the New York and Erie railroad have at length been settled, and the freight and passenger trains are running as usual. It is estimated that the loss to the company by the "engineers' strike" will exceed \$100,000.